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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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GARY GRIFFIN,

Plaintiff,

-against-

PLAINTIFF DEMANDS A TRIAL BY JURY

Civil Action No.21-cv-08247 (PAC)

**AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES**

Assault; Battery;42 U.S.C. §§ 1981, 1983, 19

JACOBI MEDICAL CENTER, THE NEW YORK CITY  
HEALTH AND HOSPITALS CORPORATION, JACQUELINE  
MAHAL, MD., DARNELL A. CAIN, MD., CHARLES OFORI-  
AMPOMAH, RN, JERMINE RICKETTS, RN, STYVE  
PAMPHILE, MD., JOHN DOE PHYSICIAN NUMBER ONE,  
JOHN DOE PHYSICIAN NUMBER TWO, JOHN DOE  
PHYSICIAN NUMBER THREE, THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, JOHN DOE  
NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER ONE, JOHN  
DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER TWO,  
all "JOHN DOE" names being fictitious and representing  
New York City Police Officers whose actual names  
remain unknown to plaintiff,

Defendants.

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## **I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

1. This is an action brought under 42 U.S.C. §§ 1981, 1983 and 1985 and raising supplemental state-law claims sounding in intentional infliction of emotional distress, assault and battery, regarding the actions of the Defendants.
2. Due to the defendants' actions and inactions, plaintiff was caused to suffer severe and debilitating physical, emotional, and psychological injuries, and was deprived of rights afforded to him by the constitution and laws of both the United States and the State of New York.
3. Plaintiff now seeks damages for the substantial pain and suffering, deprivation of his civil rights, emotional distress, and humiliation.

## **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

4. This court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this complaint under 42 U.S.C. §§ 1981, 1983, 1985, and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1334(a)(2), 1334(a)(3), 1334(a)(4), and 1367(a).
5. Venue is laid, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2), in the Southern District of New York where a substantial part of the acts and omissions giving rise to these causes of action occurred, to wit, in the County of New York.

## **III. PARTIES**

6. Plaintiff GARY GRIFFIN, fifty-nine years of age, was at all times relevant to this complaint a citizen of the United States and a resident of the City of New York in the State of New York.
7. Defendant CITY OF NEW YORK ("CITY") is a municipal corporation, and

political subdivision, of the State of New York, organized and existing t

8. At all times hereinafter mentioned, defendant NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS CORPORATION was and still is a municipal health care system duly authorized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York, having its principal place of business at 125 Worth Street New York, New York 10013.
9. That at all times mentioned herein, defendant NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS CORPORATION was municipal health care system organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York.
10. That at all times mentioned herein, the principal place of business of defendant NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS CORPORATION was located in the County of New York, State of New York.
11. That at all times hereinafter mentioned defendant NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS CORPORATION was and still is the owner of hospital facility known as JACOBI MEDICAL CENTER located at 1400 Pelham Parkway South, Bronx, New York, NY 10461.
12. That at all times hereinafter mentioned, defendant NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS CORPORATION managed the hospital facility known as JACOBI MEDICAL CENTER located at 1400 Pelham Parkway South, Bronx, New York, NY 10461.
13. That at all times hereinafter mentioned, defendant NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS CORPORATION operated the hospital facility known as

JACOBI MEDICAL CENTER located at 1400 Pelham Parkway South, Bronx, New York, NY 10461.

14. The New York City Police Department was established and exists through the authority of Chapter 18 of the New York City Charter, and pursuant to said Charter and laws enacted there under, defendant CITY owns, operates, manages, directs, and controls the New York City Police Department, which also employs all JOHN DOE POLICE OFFICERS involved in this case.
15. The New York City Health and Hospital Corporation is a municipal corporation, of the State of New York, organized and existing through the Constitution and laws of the State of New York.
16. JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER ONE ("JOHN DOE ONE") is and was at all times relevant to this Complaint an employee of defendant CITY, duly appointed and acting as a Police Officer with the aforementioned New York City Police Department. He is sued in his individual capacity.
17. JOHN DOE NEW YORK POLICE OFFICER NUMBER TWO ("JOHN DOE TWO") is and was at all times relevant to this Complaint an employee of defendant CITY, duly appointed and acting as a Police Officer with the aforementioned New York City Police Department. He is sued in his individual capacity.
18. JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD is and was at all times relevant to this Complaint an employee of defendant NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITAL

CORPORATION, duly appointed and acting as a physician with the  
aforementioned NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITAL  
CORPORATION. He/She is sued in his individual capacity.

19. JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD is and was at all times relevant to this Complaint an  
employee of defendant NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITAL  
CORPORATION, duly appointed and acting as a physician with the  
aforementioned NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITAL  
CORPORATION. He/She is sued in his individual capacity.
20. CHARLES OFORI-AMPOMAH, RN, is and was at all times relevant to this  
Complaint an employee of defendant NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND  
HOSPITAL CORPORATION, duly appointed and acting as a physician with the  
aforementioned NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITAL  
CORPORATION. He/She is sued in his individual capacity.
21. JERMINE RICKETTS, RN, is and was at all times relevant to this Complaint an  
employee of defendant NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITAL  
CORPORATION, duly appointed and acting as a physician with the  
aforementioned NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITAL  
CORPORATION. He/She is sued in his individual capacity.
22. STYVE PAMPHILE, MD, is and was at all times relevant to this Complaint an  
employee of defendant NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITAL  
CORPORATION, duly appointed and acting as a physician with the

aforementioned NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITAL CORPORATION. He/She is sued in his individual capacity.

23. At all times relevant to this Complaint, all defendants acted in concert and conspired together through both their acts and omissions and are jointly and severally liable for the harms caused to plaintiff.
24. At all times relevant to this Complaint, all defendants were acting under the color of state law, to wit, the statutes, ordinances, regulations, policies, customs, and usages of defendant CITY and of the State of New York.

#### **IV. NOTICE OF CLAIM**

25. On December 15, 2018, within ninety days following the occurrence of the incidents complained of in this Complaint, plaintiff filed a written Notice of Claim with defendant CITY pursuant to General Municipal Law § 50-e. Thirty days since the filing thereof have elapsed without adjustment or payment of plaintiff's claim. On June 17, 2019, pursuant to General Municipal Law section 50-H, a hearing was held and taken by the CITY.

#### **V. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

26. On and about December 15, 2018, GARY GRIFFIN, a resident of New York City, was involved in a motor vehicle accident.
27. Following the accident, plaintiff was taken by ambulance to Jacobi Medical Center Emergency Room.

28. Following an examination by in the Emergency Room, plaintiff was informed by, JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD., DARNELL A. CAIN, MD., CHARLES OFORI-AMPOMAH, RN, JERMINE RICKETTS, RN, STYVE PAMPHILE, MD that he was cleared to be discharged, and the he should follow up with his own primary care doctor.
29. Upon trying to leave the Emergency Room, the plaintiff was physically restrained by JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD., DARNELL A. CAIN, MD., CHARLES OFORI-AMPOMAH, RN, JERMINE RICKETTS, RN, STYVE PAMPHILE, MD several doctors and hospital police. Plaintiff's clothing was torn from him, and he was given an injection by, JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD., DARNELL A. CAIN, MD., CHARLES OFORI-AMPOMAH, RN, JERMINE RICKETTS, RN, STYVE PAMPHILE, MD , who ordered that the plaintiff undergo an X-Ray examination before he could be discharged from the hospital.
30. Plaintiff did not consent to the X-Ray examination, nor being given and injection. Plaintiff made it clear to , JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD., DARNELL A. CAIN, MD., CHARLES OFORI-AMPOMAH, RN, JERMINE RICKETTS, RN, STYVE PAMPHILE, MD, and hospital police, that he wanted to be discharged from the Emergency Room.

31. Plaintiff was physically detained and restraints were violently used upon him to restrain him to a hospital bed. At the point that plaintiff was physically restrained, he was injected with a needle by , JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD., DARNELL A. CAIN, MD., CHARLES OFORI-AMPOMAH, RN, JERMINE RICKETTS, RN, STYVE PAMPHILE, MD, against his consent, and he lost consciousness.
32. Prior to being injected, the plaintiff was struck by hospital police about his head, causing him to suffer loss of hearing in his ears.
33. During the time that police officers were attempting to restrain the plaintiff, they were trying to confiscate plaintiff's cell phone, which was recording the above incident.
34. Plaintiff recorded, on his cell phone, at least two recordings depicting the subject incident.
35. One of these recordings clearly shows, for at least 3 minutes, the plaintiff telling police and defendant doctors that he is refusing any more medical attention and that he wants to leave the hospital.
36. During this exchange, several defendant doctors were surrounding the plaintiff's gurney as well as NYPD police officers.
37. Despite plaintiff's request to refuse any further medical attention, including any type of medication, the plaintiff was physically held down by defendants, and administered an injection of medication.



38. The subject video, shows defendants, together, holding down the plaintiff and, without permission or consent from the plaintiff, removing his pants.
39. The subject video depicts defendants together conspiring to prevent the plaintiff from leaving the hospital and from honoring his right to be given no further medical attention.
40. As a direct and proximate result of the acts and omissions of defendants, plaintiff sustained severe and permanent injuries including, but not limited to, the following:
  - a. bruising and swelling about the face and body
  - b. substantial pain
  - c. discomfort
  - d. fear
  - e. embarrassment
  - f. humiliation
  - g. emotional distress and severe emotional distress
  - h. mental anguish
41. The actions and omissions of defendants violated the following clearly established and well settled federal rights of plaintiff's under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution:
  - a. freedom from unreasonable seizure of person
  - b. freedom from the use of excessive, unreasonable, unjustified

force against a person

**COUNT ONE (Federal cause of action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 1981, 1983, 1985 against the individual defendants for violation of plaintiff's Fourth and Fourteenth Amendment rights)**

42. Paragraphs 1 through 41 are each repeated, realleged, and reiterated as if fully set forth herein and are incorporated by reference.
43. The actions of all named defendants violated plaintiff's rights under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution to be free from the use of excessive and unreasonable force, unreasonable seizure, and the application of force, applied in a bad faith, maliciously, and sadistically for the sole purpose of causing harm as well as the administration of medication to the plaintiff against his will and consent.
44. As a direct and proximate result thereof, plaintiff claims damages for the injuries set forth above.

**COUNT TWO (Federal cause of action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 1981, 1983, 1985, and Monell v. Dept. Of Soc. Serv., 436 U.S. 658 (1978) against the municipal defendant)**

45. Paragraphs 1 through 44 are each repeated, realleged, and reiterated as if fully set forth herein and are incorporated by reference.
46. Defendant CITY knew or should have known its employees', agents', or servants' propensity to engage in illegal and wrongful acts detailed above.

47. Prior to August 30, 2014, Defendant CITY and NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT developed and maintained policies and/or customs exhibiting deliberate indifference to the constitutional rights of persons incarcerated in the custody of the New York City Police Department, which policies and/or customs caused the violation of plaintiff's rights.
48. Based upon information and belief, it was the policy and/or custom of defendant CITY and the NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT to improperly or inadequately investigate complaints of people in the custody of the NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, and acts of abuse, excessive force, and misconduct were instead tolerated, encouraged, and ratified by defendant CITY and the NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, including incidents in the past where officials from the Ne York City Police Department beat individuals in police custody in violation of state and federal law; retaliated against persons in police custody for exercising their right to be free from excessive force of the use of force and otherwise obstructed and manipulated any investigations thereto.
49. These customs and policies regarding the use of such force were, indeed, pervasive and well known around the Department of Corrections and with defendant CITY and NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT.
50. As a result of the above described policies and/or customs, corrections officers of defendant CITY believed that their actions would not be properly monitored by

supervisory officers and that misconduct would not be investigated or sanctioned, but, instead, would be tolerated and even encouraged.

51. The above policies and/or customs demonstrated a deliberate indifference on the part of policymakers of defendant CITY to the constitutional rights of persons within CITY who were detained or in the custody of the New York City Police Department, and were the cause of violations of plaintiff's rights alleged herein.
52. As a result of the wrongful, deliberately indifferent and illegal acts of defendant CITY and NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, plaintiff claims damages against defendant CITY for the injuries set forth above.

**COUNT THREE (Cause of action for assault against the individual defendants, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER ONE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER TWO, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER THREE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER THREE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER FOUR AND JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER FIVE; JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD., DARNELL A. CAIN, MD., CHARLES OFORI-AMPOMAH, RN, JERMINE RICKETTS, RN, STYVE PAMPHILE, MD.,**

53. Paragraphs 1 through 52 are each repeated, realleged, and reiterated as if fully set forth herein and are incorporated by reference.
54. Upon threatening the Plaintiff, physically restraining the plaintiff, punching the plaintiff, defendants, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER ONE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER TWO, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER THREE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMEBR FOUR , JOHN

DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER FIVE, while acting in concert, intentionally made plaintiff fear for his physical well-being and safety and placed him in apprehension of immediate harmful and/or offensive touching.

55. Upon threatening the Plaintiff, physically restraining the plaintiff, and injecting plaintiff with an unknown medication, defendants, JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD., DARNELL A. CAIN, MD., CHARLES OFORI-AMPOMAH, RN, JERMIANE RICKETTS, RN, STYVE PAMPHILE, MD., and upon threatening the Plaintiff, physically restraining the plaintiff, punching the plaintiff, defendants, while acting in concert, intentionally made plaintiff fear for his physical well-being and safety and placed him in apprehension of immediate harmful and/or offensive touching while acting in concert, intentionally made plaintiff fear for his physical well-being and safety and placed him in apprehension of immediate harmful and/or offensive touching
56. As a direct and proximate result thereof, plaintiff claims damages for the injuries set forth above.

**COUNT FOUR (Cause of action for battery against the individual defendants, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER ONE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER TWO, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER THREE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER FOUR, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER FIVE**

57. Paragraphs 1 through 56 are each repeated, realleged, and reiterated as if fully set forth herein and are incorporated by reference.

58. Upon striking him with fists about the face and body, striking him with blunt force objects, punching and striking and physically restraining him against his wishes, the Plaintiff JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITYPOLICE OFFICER NUMBER ONE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER TWO, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER THREE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMEBR FOUR, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER FIVE, and JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD., DARNELL A. CAIN, MD., CHARLES OFORI-AMPOMAH, RN, JERMINE RICKETTS, RN, STYVE PAMPHILE, MD., while acting in concert, touched and otherwise laid hands on plaintiff intentionally subjecting him to harmful and/or offensive conduct.
59. As a direct and proximate result thereof, plaintiff claims damages for the injuries set forth above.

**COUNT FIVE (Cause of action for intentional infliction of emotional distress against the individual defendants, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITYPOLICE OFFICER NUMBER ONE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER TWO, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER THREE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMEBR FOUR, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER FIVE JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD., DARNELL A. CAIN, MD., CHARLES OFORI-AMPOMAH, RN, JERMINE RICKETTS, RN, STYVE PAMPHILE, MD.**

60. Paragraphs 1 through 59 are each repeated, realleged, and reiterated as if set forth fully and are incorporated herein by reference.

61. Upon threatening plaintiff, striking plaintiff about the face, administering medication to plaintiff against his will, restraining the defendant against his will, defendants JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER ONE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER TWO, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER THREE, JOHN DOE NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER FOUR, NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER NUMBER FIVE, and JACQUELINE MAHAL, MD., DARNELL A. CAIN, MD., CHARLES OFORI-AMPOMAH, RN, JERMINE RICKETTS, RN, STYVE PAMPHILE, MD., while acting in concert, intentionally and recklessly conducted themselves toward plaintiff in a manner so shocking and outrageous that it exceeded all reasonable bounds of decency so as to cause severe emotional distress.
62. As a direct and proximate result thereof, plaintiff claims damages for the injuries set forth above.

**COUNT SIX (cause of action against the municipal defendant under the doctrine of Respondeat Superior)**

63. Paragraphs 1 through 62 are each repeated, realleged, and reiterated as if fully set forth herein and are incorporated by reference.
64. Defendant CITY, THE NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITAL CORPORATION and THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT is liable for all injuries sustained by plaintiff as alleged in this complaint starting on or

about December 15, 2018, and continuing thereafter, as a result of the conduct of its agents, servants, and employees, under the doctrine of respondeat superior.

65. Defendant CITY, NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITAL CORPORATION and THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, by its agents, servants, and employees, committed the torts of intentional infliction of emotional distress, assault and battery.
66. As a direct and proximate result thereof, plaintiff claims damages for the injuries set forth above.

**COUNT SEVEN: CONSPIRACY TO VIOLATE PLAINTIFF'S CIVIL RIGHTS UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983**

67. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs “1” through “66” as if the same were more fully set forth at length herein
68. Defendants conspired and acted in concert to do whatever was necessary, lawful or not, to cause the arrest, imprisonment, and involuntary confinement of plaintiff and, against his will, give him medication without his consent.
69. Throughout the period of the conspiracy, the defendants pursued their objectives with actual malice toward plaintiff, with utter and deliberate indifference to and disregard for plaintiff's rights under the Constitution and laws of the United States, without probable or reasonable cause to believe plaintiff committed any crime or any other lawful, medically based reason for doing so.
70. Pursuant to the conspiracy, the conspirators, and their employees, agents and



servants, intentionally, recklessly, negligently, and/or with complete indifference to the rights of plaintiff: (a) illegally refused to allow plaintiff to leave the hospital; (b) illegally physically held the plaintiff down so as to administer medication to the plaintiff that the plaintiff did not consent to; (c)) pressured, bribed, coerced and induced individuals to have plaintiff involuntarily confined to hospital treatment without his consent or any other lawful basis for doing so.

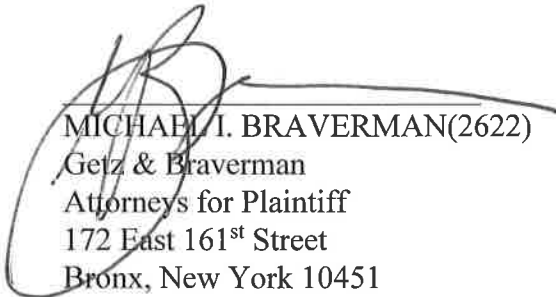
71. As a result of the foregoing, plaintiff was deprived of his liberty, was denied fundamental constitutional rights, was publicly embarrassed and humiliated, was caused to suffer severe emotional distress, and was involuntarily confined to hospital treatment against his will and without his consent.

**WHEREFORE**, plaintiff demands judgment against defendants, jointly and severally, respectively as to each and every cause of action alleged hereinabove for compensatory damages on each count; for punitive damages on each count; awarding plaintiff reasonable attorney's fees, costs, and disbursements of this action; and granting such other and further relief as this court deems just and proper.

**JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury

Bronx, New York  
December 3, 2021



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